



# *The President's Daily Brief*

~~Top Secret~~ 6 December 1967



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3. South Vietnam

[redacted] although  
the rumblings among the senior generals  
are likely to quiet down soon, a "feel-  
ing of political uneasiness" remains  
with these people, and this could lead  
to new crises in the future.

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY*

## Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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6 December 1967

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam  
for the President's Eyes Only

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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

Ho's Health: Hanoi has responded to persistent rumors in the West that Ho is ill by issuing through an authoritative source a statement to the effect that his health is not causing any concern to the Hanoi leadership. This was reported by the French Press Agency correspondent in Hanoi and so far is Hanoi's only reaction to the Western speculation.

\* \* \*

Liberation Front to Open Press Office in France: The head of the Liberation Front's office in Hanoi, who has been in Denmark attending the Russell War Crimes Tribunal, stated in an interview yesterday that the Front "would set up a press office in Paris." He gave no date for the opening of the installation, nor did he indicate if the French Government has agreed to it. So far, there is no official word from the French, but earlier reports indicated that agreement eventually would be forthcoming.

\* \* \*

Incidents Involving Chinese Ships: In connection with the recent incident in which Peking claims US aircraft damaged a Chinese ship in a North Vietnamese port, it is worth noting that Peking's ships have long been firing on US aircraft.

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North Vietnamese Needs: The North Vietnamese have told some French Communist Party officials that if the latter wish to help the cause, they should collect cash to buy essential supplies on the international market. Items needed, according to the Vietnamese list, included electric generators, diesel and electric motors, small motors for boats, and all kinds of electrical appliances. Because the North's industry has been dispersed, there are shortages of electrical wire, spare parts, electrical plugs, and other such items. On the bottom of the list were such items as woolen material, blankets, clothing, and finally foods and canned goods. A similar order of priorities was provided to some Japanese supporters recently.

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## II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Still More on McNamara and His Replacement: A Liberation Front broadcast on 3 December claimed that no matter who the "Washington warmongers" may designate to replace Secretary McNamara, he will be "doomed if the US imperialists still refuse to renounce their aggressive policy." The broadcast claimed that McNamara's "dismissal" indicated that the President no longer felt the Secretary was capable of the job. The statement also pointed out that McNamara had dedicated all his ability to serving the President "like a dog or a horse," but he has not been able to achieve success in the "piratical war" and was thus doomed.

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